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**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

Confirmation: 8044

Toshiaki NAKANO, et al.

Art Unit: 2172

Serial No.: 09/773,550

Examiner: C. Chen

Filed: February 2, 2001

Docket No.: 107156-00051

For: SERVICE PROVIDING RETRIEVAL SYSTEM USING COMPUTER NETWORK

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT WITH FILING OF RCE**

Director for the U.S. PTO  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: January 13, 2004

Sir:

In reply to the outstanding Office Action dated July 15, 2003, the time period for response having been extended until January 15, 2004 by the enclosed petition for extension of time, please consider the following:

**RECEIVED**

JAN 16 2004

Technology Center 2100